

C. F. Drake, Pres't.

Chas. Nelson, Vice Pres't.

C. F. Martin, Cash'r.

Bank of Fort Scott,

Organized under State Law.

Capital paid in \$125,000.

RECEIVED
JUL 20 1896
Asst. Treasurer, U. S.
ST. LOUIS.

Fort Scott, Kansas, 7/18 1896

Colt. Mas. U. S.

St Louis mo.

Dear Sir:

A Customer of this bank
has about fifty seven dollars that was
in his house when it burned down. It
is partly melted - some of it so much so
that all stamps of the Government is obliterated - but most of it is well preserved
but stuck firmly together. Will you
kindly inform us what rule prevails in
regard to the redemption of such Coin?

An early reply will greatly oblige

Yours Respectfully

Chas. Nelson

July 20th 1896
 Asst Treasurer U.S.
 St. Louis, Mo.

Office Assistant Treasurer U. S.,

ST. LOUIS,

*When mutilated Silver Coins,
 Letter returned with explanation*

July 20, 1896

Respectfully returned.

This office is not authorized
 to accept coin in this condition.

It should be forwarded
 with a full statement of the
 cause and manner of its
 mutilation to the Fr. Comptroller,
 Washington, D. C., who will prob-
 ably receive it at face value.

Geo. H. Small
 Assistant Treasurer U. S. St. Louis

NARA RG104, Entry 1, Box 194

Bank of Fort Scott,
Fort Scott, Kansas,
July 18, 1896

Ast. Treas. U.S.
St. Louis Mo.

Dear Sir:

A customer of this bank has about fifty silver dollars that was in his house when it burned down. It is partly melted – some of it so much so that all stamp of the Government is obliterated – but most of it is well preserved but stuck firmly together. Will you kindly inform us what rule prevails in regard to the redemption of such dime? An early reply will greatly oblige.

Yours Respectfully,
Chat. Adom V. Pt.

[Enclosed note:]

July 20, 1896
Asst. Treasurer U.S.
St. Louis, Mo.

Office Assistant Treasurer U.S.,
St. Louis,
July 20, 1896

Respectfully returned, this office is not authorized to accept coin in this condition. It should be forwarded with a full statement of the cause and manner of its mutilation to the Treasurer U.S., Washington, D.C., who said probable receive it at face value.

Geo. H. Small
Assistant Treasurer U.S. St. Louis

DENTAL OFFICE

J. WHITFIELD, M. D.
RICHARDS BLOCK.

23 S. MAIN ST.

July 25th 1896
76Fort Scott, Kansas. July 21st 1896

To the Treasures of the U. S.

Washington D. C.

Dear Sir. I herewith forward to you some mutilated coin; (of that which can be identified, about \$29.50 of that which is past recognition ^{\$10.00}) which I beg you to redeem. The following is a statement of the cause and manner of its mutilation.

I live 5 miles South west of Fort Scott Kan on a farm and am a fruit grower. This money represents the sale of my berries. And I kept ^{it} concealed in an out building buried among some coal in one corner. I placed it here because almost every day my wife and I were both away from the house for a half a day, with the children also, picking berries. On July 14th one of my little boys a lad of 5 years was playing with some matches behind this building and set it on fire. I had not yet returned from town. My wife did not know the money was in the building. or she could have saved it. They worked heroically to save the building but it was burned to the ground. The coin was deposited in an old tin can that had held lye. The mouth

of the can was stopped with a wad of paper, and contained 49 dollars all in silver, in dollars halves and quarters. In burning, the can tipped over and spilled a part. Of that which spilled, a part (\$8.50) found a resting place where it was not hurt, only blackened, but the rest of what was spilled was melted into two masses which according to my account contain \$11.00. the remainder, (29.50) remained in the can. The can not being put together with solder did not come to pieces.

A coin might have escaped our notice in the ashes but I do not believe so. for we have examined and reexamined the spot most thoroughly. then the can was in the coal with only about twelve inches between it and the ground and with about 3 inches of coal above it, so it could not easily be scattered as the ground was almost level. The can was near the east wall of the building which was of pine and in over turning fell outward so some of the coin escaped the greatest heat.

Mr Charles Nelson of the Bank of J.D. Scott kindly wrote for me to the assistant treasurer at St Louis. who in reply referred the whole matter to you. Hoping you will grant my request I am,
Very Respectfully Yours
John C. Umsted.

18⁶⁶
18⁰⁸ Over

7/29/96
CPS

Dental Office
R.J. Whitfield, M.D.
Fort Scott, Kansas.
July 21, 1896

To the Treasurer of the U.S.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir.

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I live 5 miles South west of Fort Scott Kanas on a farm and am a fruit grower. This money represents the sale of my berries, and I kept it concealed in an out building buried among some coal in one corner I placed it here because almost every day my wife and I were both away from the house for a half and day, with the children also, picking berries. On July 14th one of my little boys a lad of 5 years was playing with some matches behind this building and set it on fire. I had not yet returned from town. My wife did not know the money was in the building, or she could have saved it. They worked heroically to save the building but it was burned to the ground. The coin was deposited in an old tin can that had held lye. The mouth of the can was stopped with a wad of paper, and contained 49 dollars all in silver, in dollars halves and quarters. In burning, the can tipped over and spilled a part. Of that which spilled, a part (\$8.50) found a resting place where it was not hurt, only blackened, but the rest of what was spilled was melted into two masses which according to my account contains \$11.00. The remainder, (29.50) remained in the can. The can not being put together with solder did not come to pieces.

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Mr. Charles Nelson of the Bank of F.T. Scott. Kindly wrote for me to the assistant treasurer at St. Louis, who in reply referred the whole matter to you. Hoping you will grant my request I am

Very Respectfully Yours,
John C. Urnstect

[Noted in margins:]

18.16

00.08

18.08

Sent 7/29/96 C.P.D.